

## THE Y. M. C. A. ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of this Association was held on Thursday evening, His Honor Chief Justice Judd presiding. The following officers for the ensuing year were elected: President, Mr. P. C. Jones, Jr.; Vice President, Mr. J. T. Waterhouse, Jr.; Recording Secretary, Mr. E. A. Jones; Treasurer, Mr. W. A. Kinney; Members of the Board of Management (with the above), Messrs. T. G. Thrum and T. H. Davies. The meeting was enlivened by some very good part singing, and, besides the reports of the Secretary and Treasurer the retiring President, Hon. A. F. Judd, Rev. Geo. Wallace, and Rev. Mr. Merritt delivered addresses. The Treasurer's balance sheet showed: Receipts, \$1,472 42; balance from last year, \$55 49; total, \$1,527 91. Expenditure, \$1,383 11. Balance in hand, \$144 80. This does not include the record of the Building Fund. The premises are now entirely clear of debt. We give below the Secretary's report and Judge Judd's address. The meeting was closed by the singing of a hymn and afterwards those present, who were numerous enough to fairly fill the seats in the large hall, were entertained by lady friends of the Association, with some choice light refreshments.

## RECORDING SECRETARY'S REPORT.

On April 19th, 1883, the last annual meeting of this society was held in the Vestry of the Bethel Church, at which time Prof. A. Pratt retired from the Presidency and Hon. A. F. Judd was elected to the position.

One week later the members were called together in special session to receive the report and recommendations of the new Board of Directors, together with the announcement of committees for the year, and at that time the work properly commenced. At this meeting Captain Isaiah Bray was invited to act as General Secretary temporarily, and did so until his departure for the U. S. in June.

The evening of April 21st was one to be long remembered by the members and their friends who assembled in large numbers to witness the dedication of this building, the exercises in connection with which were exceedingly enjoyable.

The first public meeting, aside from the dedication, was one of thanksgiving and praise, held on Sunday afternoon April 29th, 1883.

Since that time the building has been in very general use. The reading-room has been open day and evening and while, as a matter of course, the attendance varies largely, still it may be said to be in constant use. In May Mr. P. C. Jones, Jr., started a class in book-keeping, and those who have availed themselves of this opportunity are now being shown the more advanced stages of this very necessary qualification for a business life. Later our President formed a class for instruction in the Hawaiian language, and Mr. Furnace has been giving mechanics a series of lessons in free-hand drawing. On the first Sunday in October, a course of Sunday afternoon services was inaugurated, Rev. Mr. Cruzan giving a short and earnest address. He continued to take charge of them, and with the assistance which he obtained from other clergymen, made them of great interest, but the work was too severe for him in connection with his other duties, and as the class which we particularly desired to reach did not attend in any number, these meetings were discontinued and an afternoon prayer meeting is now held instead.

Public gatherings have been held for awakening interest in the temperance cause, and for providing entertainment for young men. The Hall has been often used for concerts and lectures, while the smaller rooms were in demand for use by various committees of this and other societies.

During the year there have been held twelve regular and two special meetings, and thirty-two persons have been elected to membership.

At the meeting in January of this year, the Building Committee, having completed instructions in regard to the finishing of the building, made their final report, showing in total numbers: receipts, \$21,068.45; disbursements, \$20,802.88, leaving a balance of \$265.57, which was turned into the general fund. These receipts were materially increased by the proceeds of a fair held in this room by the ladies, to whose efforts and labors we were indebted for the sum of about \$750.

Our committees have been at work, and we trust have accomplished good, but we feel more and more the need of a general secretary, who can give his whole time to the work. There is absolute need for a firm directing hand, and for that thought and attention which cannot be given by me, taken up with professional or mercantile duties. Our building has not been as attractive, or the welcome to strangers as hearty as if we had had such a person. Since July we have been in communication with San Francisco and New York in regard to securing one, and have now what we consider good prospects of having one with us soon.

When Captain Bray left for the U. S. he was instructed to ascertain conditions and privileges of membership in the International

Association and report to us. This he did and we are now regularly connected with that body.

It is the experience of older societies that to make an association of this kind successful, it must make a specialty of that which its name signifies, the helping of young men. This is being felt with us and during the year the Chinese work, which had been conducted by this society has passed by general consent into the hands of the Hawaiian Board.

With a building free from debt, and a person in the capacity of General Secretary to superintend affairs, we feel that with the confidence and support of this community we shall during the coming year make this Association one of power in Christian work, and a necessity to this city.

F. J. LOWREY,  
Recording Secretary.

## PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, BRETHREN OF THE Y. M. C. A. OF HONOLULU.—As stated by the Secretary in his report on the 21st of last April this building was dedicated, as expressed in the preamble to our constitution to the cause of the "religious, moral, mental and physical improvement of the young men of Honolulu."

One year has passed and we find ourselves with this handsome and convenient edifice completed and well furnished, without debt, and it is becoming that we should now ask the question whether we have made the expected progress in the line of our avowed principles.

It is quite easy to fall into the belief that the building being done, the work of the institution will now run along by itself, and that a well lighted reading room amply provided with papers and magazines and a lighted transparency at the door are sufficient attractions. I fear that more than one has fallen into this lazy condition of mind. But this is a fatal mistake. "The life is more than meat and the body than raiment."

There is more in the Cathedral than its carved stones. Its solemn services are worth more than its gray walls. That the invisible is more important and more enduring than the visible is the paradox of faith. The development of the soul is more important than that of the body, so also is any end to be achieved superior to the agency employed in accomplishing it. The spirit of the church is not the edifice and I regret that the same word "church" is used both for the association of believers and the place they worship in, for this is confusing and misleading. Our Hawaiian brethren are better off in this respect for they have a separate word for each.

Valuable then as this building is, having completed adaptation for Christian work, it should be regarded as the mere shell enclosing the spirit of our organization and not as our finished work.

There is an implied contract between the Y. M. C. A. and the community of Honolulu, that we use our best endeavors in carrying forward the legitimate work of such an association. The generous donors have done their part of the contract and will have the right to complain if we commit any breach on our part.

Much has been said as to the connection between the Y. M. C. A. and the Church. It ought to be a most important auxiliary to the Church, and especially so as it is undenominational, and allows of no proselyting zeal for any one branch of the Church universal. We do not ask if the member be Baptist, Methodist, Presbyterian or Episcopalian—everyone who wishes the advancement of Christ's Kingdom is welcomed as a co-worker with us. And here is the place where the layman can be employed as well as the clergyman. So long as men differ in the essentials, as to creed, forms of worship and methods of church government, there will be church organizations of different names in the world. Perhaps the typical church of the future will be so catholic as to include all, but will it be by the absorption, by one denomination of all the others, and if so which one is likely to achieve this distinction? The signs of the times fail to give any answer to this inquiry. We may compare the Y. M. C. A. to the recruiting station where soldiers are mustered and drilled, to be thereafter assigned to different regiments for definite service. But we may not push the parallel too far, for the one does not drop the work where the other takes it up, but both run along concurrently in their different spheres of action. The work of this institution should be done, too, by young men, and here the word "young" does not refer to the number of years that has rolled over the head of the individual, for if the heart is young and vigorous the man possessing it is the young man for our purposes.

The recruiting ground of our society is among the boys of Honolulu. Do you realize that every twenty years the work of every community passes into the hands of a new set of men? The clerk of to-day is the merchant of to-morrow. The student of one day is the professional man of the next. A most hopeful augury of our work is the fact that a missionary society formed last month among the boys of this place, has been named by the lads themselves the "Y. M. C. A. Boys." This body ought to be cherished by us most lovingly and our hope and expectation should be that they all may graduate into and become members of the Y. M. C. A. as years advance. We say to them, "Let no man despise thy youth." Put the armor on early, piece by piece, and increasing strength will be given you to bear its accumulating weight.

Our position in Honolulu is a peculiar one. We have no lower classes of our own race. Our peasantry is of the native Hawaiian, the Chinese and other foreigners who do not speak the English language.

Whatever may be the appropriate sphere of other religious societies in this place, our work is undoubtedly among the young men, of our own and kindred races, speaking the same language, and among them we have not the same kind of work to perform, as in the large cities of the civilized world, where the overpowering influences of poverty, misery, and crime have to be contended with in giving the gospel to the poor.

In Honolulu the work is not to be done so much among the "neglected poor" as the "neglected rich." By rich, I mean those in comfortable circumstances, who are intelligent and yet are so absorbed in and contented with themselves as to feel no desire for the "better life."

I am much impressed with the published statistics of this institution. They show that it is filling a want of our race. In the United States, with its immense territory and rapidly increasing population, the work of the Y. M. C. A. has assumed such gigantic proportions that it has been found necessary to divide and subdivide the work. In addition to the 786 of the U. S. Associations, an International Convention meets once in two years. The International Committee employ paid secretaries, who are engaged as follows:—

1. In locating Secretaries.
2. In work among Railroad men.
3. " " College men.
4. " " German young men.
5. " " Commercial Travelers.
6. " " Colored young men.

The last Year Book gives the number of Associations throughout the world as 2428, distributed as follows:—

|                       |     |
|-----------------------|-----|
| 1. North America..... | 840 |
| 2. Germany.....       | 400 |
| 3. Great Britain..... | 388 |
| 4. Holland.....       | 335 |
| 5. Switzerland.....   | 135 |
| 6. Sweden.....        | 71  |
| 7. France.....        | 64  |
| 8. Australia.....     | 24  |
| 9. Belgium.....       | 18  |
| 10. Spain.....        | 14  |
| 11. Italy.....        | 10  |
| 12. Africa.....       | 9   |
| 13. Russia.....       | 8   |
| 14. Austria.....      | 2   |
| 15. Turkey.....       | 1   |
| 16. Hawaii.....       | 1   |

Total.....2,428  
To this grand list must be added the 36 Hawaiian, and one Chinese Associations of these Islands, which, though not entirely homogeneous with our own, are sufficiently so to be called 'brother societies.' It is expected that the Hawaiian Associations will, this year, adopt a uniform Constitution, and be enrolled among the "Regulars" of the force.

The present membership of our Society is 146, but many of these are permanent absentees, and it is proposed to revise the list at the beginning of our new year.

The details of our work have been reported to you by the Secretary.

We wish that these classes for evening instruction, referred to by the Secretary, could be extended by volunteers. Why not have classes in penmanship and botany, and all the rudiments of education, so that every night in the week (except Wednesday, which is devoted to Church services) be filled up with some useful educational work.

In the way of entertainments much more can be done, especially by a course of conversational talks by professional men. Such lectures by the doctors, lawyers, or the clergymen of this city would be most useful and entertaining. But our greatest present need is of a general secretary; not one, however, upon whom we can turn our work, and sit henceforth as lookers on, with folded arms, but who shall be our captain and leader in the active work of the Society.

While hardly agreeing with the views entertained by some that the Y. M. C. A. should descend to the level of a restaurant or billiard saloon, without the liquor, I nevertheless think a great deal more in the way of amusements could be produced here, especially those suitable for boys.

One difficulty in the way of this is the vast number of other Societies existing in Honolulu, and whose numbers are constantly increasing. These are great drafts on the time and strength of those willing to work, and in many instances the same individuals are conspicuous in many different Societies. But the rule of the Survival of the Fittest has a forcible application here. A retrospect of the work done during the past year leads me to observe that much more should be done by our Society, and especially for the cause of Temperance. Of late Honolulu has thought and said but little on this subject. One of the most prominent political newspapers in the U. S., and perhaps the most intellectual of them all, calls attention to "the rapid growth, not in that country only, but all over the world, of the opinion that the next great step in the amelioration of the condition of the race must be the destruction or great diminution of the manufacture and sale of spirituous liquors."

The article is so pungent on this topic, upon which we cannot hope for much originality of expression, that I quote more from it, as follows:—

"We mean that the increased attention which is being given to the problems of crime and poverty, and which finds expression in attempts to improve the dwellings of the poor, to make their lives less dreary and the future of their children more hopeful, to protect women and children from brutality and fraud, to make prison discipline more wholesome and reformatory, brings the most conscientious and influential members of every community face to face with the fact that spirituous liquors—that is, whiskey, brandy, rum, and gin—are by far the greatest cause of preventable human misery. In Switzerland there is a loud call for governmental action, and one which will be promptly answered, if it has not already been answered, to prevent the disorder and misery resulting from the recent rapid increase in the consumption of spirits. In Belgium and Norway the same question is coming up from the same cause. In Great Britain 'the enthusiasm of humanity' is very distinctly taking the same direction. In fact, no matter from what point social reformers start they are apt to meet round the whiskey or brandy cask, as the true source of most of the woes they are combating."

In this country we are to-day met by the grave fact that the quantity of distilled spirits in the United States in October last was 115,949,235 gallons, of which the United States was taking care of 74,582,117 gallons in bond until the owners could find it convenient to pay the tax on it. The amount of human misery, the murders, the fires, the suicides, the defalcations, the loss of property and health, the divorces, the family shame and sorrow, stored up in this amount of liquor is simply incalculable. In fact, it is not too much to say that every whiskey warehouse is like a little volcano, ready at a moment's warning to send little rivulets of flame and desolation over the country. No one needs distilled spirits except in sickness. Nobody in health drinks it with his meals as a cheering or digestive beverage. It is probably never taken by a healthy man without more of less physical or moral damage. In other words, it is a huge national curse. The number of people who begin to see this is increasing, and they are likely every year to become a greater and greater proportion of the American people."

With these statements before us, and seeing a daily verification of them before our eyes, much more can and should be done in the year of our Lord, 1884, than was done in 1883. Brethren and friends, as you love your Saviour and your families keep this question ever near your hearts. The influence of every community is measured by its moral force and the grade of this moral force is according to the activity of the Christian portion of the community. It is true that we have much to contend against here. A vigorous form of Christianity was introduced in these Islands by our Missionary forefathers. But a climate which does not require that one should work six months in the year to obtain warmth and food for the other six months, is not generally deemed congenial for the growth of the sturdy virtues without which Christianity is a mere name.

The vital question for us to consider is whether we shall yield to the seductive influence and live the dreamy life of the Sybarite? We have conditions here favorable to such an existence and which are the admiration of the average tourist. Softly blowing trade winds, odors of the jessamine, music from tinkling guitars, moonlight glinting through palm trees—all are here. I think the verdict of the world is that the second generation of the Puritan stock in this country has nobly sustained the work of the pioneers. Our anxiety now is for the third and fourth generations. Which influence is to prevail?—the sensuous, *laissez faire* spirit which regrets that the Missionaries ever introduced clothing and wooden houses to the gentle savages of Hawaii, or that spirit of aggressive Christianity which insists on activity and growth in morality and piety.

Is the white boy of Honolulu to succumb to the tendency, and prefer the *lei* and the Portuguese guitar to the school book or the implements of the artisan? Which influence is to succeed here? Shall we have a more law-abiding community here, where we and our children can stay and make permanent homes in a pure atmosphere. The way each individual

Christian in this community puts forth his efforts will furnish the answer to this question.

The stand taken by the community on questions of morality, as they, from time to time come to the surface for decision, will tend to settle our position one side or the other. One thing is certain, the future of this country is largely in our hands, and unless we adhere to a high standard of morality, and build here on deep and wide foundations, the institutions and safeguards of its highest and best Christian civilization, and maintain them, we may not be able longer to resist the degrading influences of much of our imported population which so easily coalesce with the natural impulses of the aboriginal race.

With God's help, a victory can be won. But it will require much sacrifice of ease, and it needs undimmed courage and high devotion.

The Christians of Hawaii should be the leaven that shall leaven the whole heterogeneous mass of the mixed races that are to be the future population of these fair isles. But our first duty is to our own race, and as one of the agencies to contribute to the grand result which, if achieved, will make Hawaii, though a mere dot on the map of the globe, as great in the moral world of modern times as was Greece in the ancient commonwealth of letters and the arts, we commend this institution—the Y. M. C. A. of Honolulu—to this community. It needs money for its success; but it also needs consecrated lives, and it needs these more than money. Under the corps of officers whose term begins to-night, I have no doubt much progress in this respect will be accomplished during the coming year.

## CONCERT GIVEN BY THE HONOLULU SYMPHONY CLUB.

The Honolulu Symphony Club is a progressive organization. Amongst its members (which number fourteen) are several talented musicians, one of whom is an artist of the highest order as a violinist. We refer to Mr. J. W. Yandley, who was tendered a complimentary concert on Tuesday evening at the Y. M. C. A. Hall, in recognition of his superior ability as a musician, and his willingness at all times to assist at any entertainment when asked. The programme contained ten numbers and was listened to by a large and appreciative audience. *Honneur aux dames!* We first have to speak of Mrs. J. A. Cruzan, who deserves the greatest commendation for her singing of Campan's "Zingarella." It was a pleasure to hear her sweet and well-trained voice. Two quartets, "Gloria," by Phillips, and "May Again," by Mendelssohn, were rendered in faultless style by Mrs. Hanford, Mrs. Cruzan, Mrs. Brown and Miss Castle. The "Angel's Serenade," by Braga, with violin obligato, was very tastefully sung by Mrs. J. F. Brown. Mr. Charles Hasselman made his first appearance before a Honolulu audience. He at once gained friends by the artistic manner in which he rendered his selection, "Alla Stella Confidente," by Robandi. He has a good voice, distinct enunciation, and artistic phrasing. We trust the gentleman will be often heard in the future. He was loudly cheered and sang another selection. Of Mr. Yandley's performance of his two violin solos, we cannot find words to express our pleasure. His first number was De Beriot's "First Concerto," excellently played; the second an "Elegie" by Ernst, which afforded him an opportunity for execution which was improved to the utmost. He plays with much expression and in fine taste, and draws a very pure and sympathetic tone from his violin. He received an enthusiastic encore and responded with a Cavatina by Raff. The Symphony Club supplied three numbers to the programme, each of which were played in masterly style, and showed the result of close and intelligent study. The selection, "Don Pasquale," by Verdi, pleased us best as the music was distributed round to the different instruments, and gave us an opportunity for judging individual work. It is safe to assert that the future has many victories for this organization, and it will command support in whatever it undertakes, by reason of the musical ability of its members, quite as much as for the local pride of its existence. The last number of the programme was a cornet solo—"Star of England," by Lamotta, played in his usual well-known style by Mr. Chas. Michiel. We cannot close this report without speaking in the highest terms of the pianoforte playing of Miss Carrie Castle. This painstaking and talented young lady played the whole of the accompaniments (with one exception) in a most masterly manner. The concert, as a whole, was the most enjoyable we have heard in Honolulu, and it is to be hoped that in the near future the Symphony Club will give us a series of chamber concerts.

## Miscellaneous Reading

## FLOTSAM!

(1492)

All the mill-horses of Europe  
Were plodding round and round,  
All the mills were droning  
The same old sound

The drivers were dozing, the millers  
Were deaf—as millers will be;  
When—startling them all—without warning  
Came a great shout from the sea!

It startled them all; the horses,  
Lazily plodding round,  
Started and stood; and the mills dropt,  
Like a mantle, their sound.

The millers looked over their shoulders,  
The drivers opened their eyes;  
A silence, deeper, than deafness,  
Had fallen out of the skies.

"Hulloa, there!"—this time distinctly  
It rose from the barren sea;  
And Europe, turning in wonder,  
Whispered "What can it be?"

"Come down! come down to the shore here!"  
And Europe was soon on the sand;  
It was the great Columbus  
Dragging his prize to land!

J. LOGIE ROBERTSON.